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valuable building sites from disuse and worthlessness, and increase in a ratio which it would be hard to over-estimate the productiveness of low lands in every part of the country.

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20. — *Three Visits to Madagascar during the Years 1853, 1854, 1856. Including a Journey to the Capital; with Notices of the Natural History of the Country, and the Present Civilization of the People.* By the Rev. WILLIAM ELLIS, F. H. S., Author of "Polynesian Researches." Illustrated by Wood-cuts from Photographs, &c. New York: Harper & Brothers. 1859. 8vo. pp. 514.

WE are always attracted to an itinerary by the name of a missionary on the title-page. It would seem as if the consecration of the office enlarged and quickened all the perceptive and receptive powers, widened the scope of observation and research, and imparted its glow and energy to the style and diction. In numerous instances half a score of specialists in different departments of science and knowledge would give us less information, and certainly in a far less interesting form, than we have from a single explorer or resident in a strange land, whose prime object is the propagation of the Christian faith. The book before us is a case in point. All else that is known of Madagascar bears a small proportion to what is made known in this volume. We regret that our limits will not permit us to give so much as an abstract of its contents. Suffice it to say, that the narrative is one of unflagging interest, both on account of the novelty of its material — a country, a people, a history peculiar, to us strange, in every feature — and the easy, fluent, perspicuous, vivid style of the author. The illustrations, though of an inferior type as works of art, are of well-chosen subjects, clearly drawn, and satisfactory. The work is one which our readers will thank us for commending to their perusal.

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21. — *The Bible in the Levant; or the Life and Letters of the Rev. C. N. Righter, Agent of the American Bible Society in the Levant.* By SAMUEL IRENÆUS PRIME. New York: Sheldon & Co. 1859. 12mo. pp. 336.

HERE is another book which owes its rich charm and high interest to the missionary service. It is the story of the life, labors, and early death of one who, at the age of thirty-two, fell a victim to the inhospitable climate which he encountered in the cause of human salvation.

He was a noble man, a brave and earnest worker, a faithful preacher of righteousness ; and as such he will be inscribed on the martyr roll of Christian heroes, whose names must brighten in history, as those of conquerors and destroyers fade from the revering memory of men. The story is told, as far as was practicable, in Mr. Righter's own letters, and in those which describe his last days and closing scene. These Mr. Prime has connected by a loving and graceful narrative.

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22. — *Sixty Years' Gleanings from Life's Harvest. A Genuine Autobiography.* By JOHN BROWN, Proprietor of the University Billiard Rooms, Cambridge. New York : D. Appleton & Co. 1859. pp. 392.

WE can see no reason why John Brown should have written his own life ; but, so long as it is written, there are many reasons why it should be read. He was a butcher's boy, a shoemaker, apprentice, journeyman, and master, a soldier, a sailor in the British navy, an actor in strolling companies and on provincial boards, a brewer and innholder, and, as the culmination of his fortunes, the prosperous owner and keeper of billiard rooms. In describing his own diversified experiences, he presents minute and vivid sketches and characteristic anecdotes of English life, in forms ranging from the very lowest half-way up the scale, including such outside views of the great University as could come under his cognizance in his capacity of cordwainer, or in the profession which figures on his title-page. He thus gives us a great deal of information which we know not where else to find. He seems to be, on the whole, a well-principled and kind-hearted man, and his story is told with a *naïveté* which makes us willing to dispense with those higher qualities which would have been as far beyond his reach as they are above his aim.

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23. — *Romanism in America.* By RUFUS W. CLARK, Author of "Heaven and its Emblems," "Lectures to Young Men," "Life Scenes of the Messiah," etc. Boston : J. E. Tilton & Co. 12mo. pp. 271.

IN this volume Mr. Clark traces the origin and progress of Romanism, expounds its fundamental principles, demonstrates their antagonism to civil freedom, and exhibits those of its features which render it peculiarly dangerous on our soil. He writes with warmth, but not with bitterness. His arguments are unquestionable facts. He is an alarm-